

TOWN OF GRANBY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES

April 5, 2012

PRESENT: Neil Hornish, Anna Sogliuzzo, Mark Fiorentino, Susan Dwyer, Carolyn Flint

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Chairman Hornish.

MARCH 15, 2012 MINUTES:

The minutes from the March 15, 2012 meeting were reviewed by the Commission.

ON A MOTION by Mr. Fiorentino, seconded by Ms. Sogliuzzo, the minutes from the March 15, 2012 Conservation Commission meeting were approved on a (4-0-1) vote. Chairman Hornish abstained from voting as he was not present at the March 15, 2012 meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY (NRI):

Chairman Hornish has uploaded the latest version of the NRI to the Commission's G-Mail account. Currently, Chairman Hornish is in the process of reviewing the recommendation sections and comparing them to current zoning regulations for consistency. Chairman Hornish is also in the process of completing the chart on local farms, which includes the address of each farm and products for sale. Ms. Sogliuzzo volunteered to assist Chairman Hornish on this task.

Ms. Dwyer is attempting to track down a map of wildlife corridors in Granby from the State Plan of Conservation and Development.

The Commission decided to devote the May 2, 2012 meeting to making final revisions to the NRI.

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE:

The Conservation Commission decided to hold the clean energy sign – up event on May 19th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Senior Center, pending room availability at the Senior Center. Ms. Sogliuzzo drafted a flyer for the event and researched the cost of publishing the flyer as an insert in the "Granby News". Chairman Hornish will contact the Town Manager's office to determine if some of the grant money could be used for the cost publishing the flyer. The Commission will finalize the flyer at the next meeting.

Chairman Hornish announced that the electricity information for the municipal buildings is up to date in Portfolio Manager. He also suggested the schools apply for an Energy Star rating. Chairman Hornish will begin submitting paperwork to get the schools this distinction.

The Town's municipal buildings are rated significantly lower than the schools. The Commission decided that perhaps a building should be chosen as a model for the Commission to go in to verify information (i.e. building size, number of computers, etc) and begin to make small changes to see if the rating increases. Chairman Hornish felt the Commission should discuss this idea with Town Manager Bill Smith. Dependent on approval, the Commission would then select one of the municipal buildings to be used as the test model.

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UPCOMING COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Ms. Dwyer has not yet received a response from the DEEP regarding a bio-blitz study for Granby. She will again to contact the DEEP.

Mr. Fiorentino is waiting on a list of dates from Westfield State as to when students would be mapping trails in McLean's. Once Mr. Fiorentino receives the list of dates, he will contact McLean's to let them know as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Hornish was contacted by the Southwick, MA Conservation Commission regarding their restoration project of the Congamond Lakes. As a small portion of the Lake, Canal Brook, feeds into Granby, Southwick's Conservation Commission asked if the Granby Conservation Commission would be interested in participating in the restoration project. As the project gets underway, the Southwick Commission will contact Granby's Commission with more details.

ON A MOTION by Carolyn Flint, seconded by Anna Sogliuzzo, the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm on a (5-0-0) vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Leveille
Recording Secretary